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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
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09/904,111

07/11/2001

Ansaf Ibrahim Alrabady

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07/09/2004

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EXAMINER

BANGACHON, WILLIAM L

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

2635

DATE MAILED: 07/09/2004

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Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

## Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/904,111

Applicant(s)

ALRABADY, ANSAF IBRAHEM

Examiner

William Bangachon

Art Unit

2635

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

### Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

### Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 11 July 2001.
- 2a) ☐ This action is FINAL. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

### Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-15 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-15 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

### Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on \_\_\_\_\_ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
- Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

### Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some \* c) ☐ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
  - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
  - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- \* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 13) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application) since a specific reference was included in the first sentence of the specification or in an Application Data Sheet. 37 CFR 1.78.
- a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
- 14) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121 since a specific reference was included in the first sentence of the specification or in an Application Data Sheet. 37 CFR 1.78.

### Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) 2.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). \_\_\_\_\_
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: \_\_\_\_\_

## DETAILED ACTION

### ***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 101***

1. 35 U.S.C. 101 reads as follows:

Whoever invents or discovers any new and useful process, machine, manufacture, or composition of matter, or any new and useful improvement thereof, may obtain a patent therefor, subject to the conditions and requirements of this title.

2. Claims 11-14 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 101 because the claimed invention lacks patentable utility. There is no indication of a use of the configuration information as claimed, except that this information is stored in memory.

### ***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112***

3. The following is a quotation of the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall conclude with one or more claims particularly pointing out and distinctly claiming the subject matter, which the applicant regards as his invention.

4. Claims 11-14 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention. It is unclear what the configuration information stored in the memory of the portable transmitter is used for.

### ***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102***

5. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention thereof by the applicant for patent, or on an international application by another who has fulfilled the requirements of paragraphs (1), (2), and (4) of section 371(c) of this title before the invention thereof by the applicant for patent.

The changes made to 35 U.S.C. 102(e) by the American Inventors Protection Act of 1999 (AIPA) and the Intellectual Property and High Technology Technical Amendments Act of 2002 do not apply when the reference is a U.S. patent resulting directly or indirectly from an international application filed before November 29, 2000. Therefore, the prior art date of the reference is determined under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) prior to the amendment by the AIPA (pre-AIPA 35 U.S.C. 102(e)).

6. Claims 1-15 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by USP 6,661,351 (Matsuhira).

In claims 1, 7, and 8, Matsuhira teach of an arrangement for remotely controlling convenience functions at a plurality of devices as shown in figure 1 {col. 1, line 30-col. 2, line 30}, said arrangement comprising:

a plurality of device-based receiver means (200), each for receiving a remote convenience function request signal and for conveying a remote convenience function request message to a device operations system for use in performing a remotely requested convenience function {col. 1, lines 59-60; col. 6, lines 5-10} ; and

a plurality of portable transmitter means (100), each of said plurality of transmitter means being configurable to be compatible with any of said plurality of receiver means for outputting a remote convenience function request signal to cause remote control performance of a function at the respective device {col. 1, lines 41-45}.

In claim 2, an arrangement as set forth in claim 1 wherein each of said plurality of transmitter means (100) having:

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means for storing transmitter configuration information (ROM, RAM), wherein the transmitter configuration information is used to configure said transmitter means for compatibility {col. 6, line 44-45};

means for receiving input from a user to select one of said plurality of receiver means for which said transmitter means is to be compatible {col. 6, lines 5-10};

means for retrieving a subset of the transmitter configuration information from said means for storing in accordance with the received selection {col. 6, lines 44-59; col. 7, lines 41-53}

means for receiving input from the user indicative of a remote convenience function request {col. 6, lines 11-24};

means for generating a remote convenience function request message that uses the subset of the transmitter configuration information corresponding to the function request input {col. 6, lines 5-10}; and

means for transmitting remote convenience function request signal conveying the request message intended for reception by said selected receiver means {col. 7, lines 1-6}.

In claims 3 and 4, an arrangement as set forth in claim 1 wherein each of said plurality of receiver means (200) has:

means for storing receiver configuration information, wherein the receiver configuration information is used to configure said receiver means for compatibility {col. 8, lines 44-51};

means for receiving the remote convenience function request signal conveying the request message transmitted by one of said plurality of transmitter means {col. 8, lines 30-37};

means for determining the validity of the remote convenience function request message based upon the receiver configuration information {paragraph bridging cols. 8 and 9}; and

means for conveying the remote convenience function request message to the device operations system of the device whose said receiver means determined that it received a valid remote convenience function request message {col. 9, lines 2-20}.

In claim 5, an arrangement as set forth in claim 1 wherein said receiver means is part of a transceiver means.

In claim 6, an arrangement as set forth in claim 1 wherein said transmitter means is part of a transceiver means.

In claim 9 and 10, a convenience function request message as set forth in claim 8 wherein: said portable transmitter configuration information includes a number indicative of the portable transmitter sending the request message; and said device configuration information includes a number indicative of the device intended to perform the convenience function {col. 8, lines 53-60}.

Claim 15 recites the combination of claims 1-6 and therefore rejected for the same reasons.

### ***Conclusion***

7. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

USP 6,304,968 (Hacker et al) is cited in that it teaches of plural receivers {see whole document}.

USP 6,538,558 (Sakazume et al) is cited in that it teaches of plural transmitters {see whole document}.

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***Examiner Contact Information***

8. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to William Bangachon whose telephone number is 703-305-2701. The examiner can normally be reached on 4/4/10.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Michael Horabik can be reached on 703-305-4704. The fax phone numbers for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9314 for regular and After Final formal communications. The examiner's fax number is 703-746-6071 for informal communications.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is 703-305-4700.

William L Bangachon  
Examiner  
Art Unit 2635

June 28, 2004